20 PERCENT BY 2020

This is positive news for Arizona teachers, and a real step in the right direction.

To start, the governor's FY2019 teacher pay increase will be boosted to 9 percent. This in combination with the pay increase in FY2018 will result in a total **10 percent increase for FY2019**, effective at the start of the 2018 school year this fall. Additional 5 percent increases will be made the next two years to achieve a **net 20 percent increase by the 2020 school year**.

This plan builds on the governor's proposal to invest \$371 million in District Additional Assistance and Charter Additional Assistance, phased-in over the next five years. An initial investment of \$100 million will be made in FY2019. These dollars provide flexibility to school districts for investment in resources including fixing school infrastructure, modernizing curriculum, school buses and updating classroom technologies.

Arizona teachers are the biggest difference-makers in the lives of Arizona's children, and we need to reward them for their hard work — this plan does that through a 20 percent pay increase by school year 2020. This is in the base. Ongoing. Inflated.

This plan is also making significant investments in Arizona classrooms in a responsible and sustainable way. We will never stop our commitment to improving Arizona's public education system because when it comes to our kids, we must never stop working for them.

Arizona's economy is growing and with a growing economy comes more revenue. The governor has said: He's on the side of the teachers, and he's been listening – and we've been working.

What does this mean? Today, the average teacher pay is \$48,723. If we pass this plan, it will increase to a projected \$52,725 by the new school year this fall. By the beginning of the 2020 school year the projected average teacher salary will be \$58,130.

As a result of Arizona's thriving economy, and a record population of 7 million plus residents, the state's revenues are on the rise. Combined with a reduction in state government operating budgets through strategic efficiencies, caseload savings, and a rollback of some governor's office proposals included in the FY19 Executive Budget, more dollars are available to invest into two of Arizona's most important priorities: Arizona teachers and Arizona classrooms.

The budget process is coming to a close -- we hope Arizonans join us in strongly supporting this plan.